

1           **DURHAM-CHAPEL HILL-CARRBORO METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION**

2   **TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

3   **February 23, 2022**

4   **MINUTES OF MEETING**

5   The Durham-Chapel Hill Carrboro Metropolitan Planning Organization Technical Committee met  
6   on February 23, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. through a teleconferencing platform. The following  
7   members were in attendance:

- 8   Ellen Beckmann (Chair) Durham County
- 9   Nishith Trivedi (Vice Chair) Orange County
- 10   Theo Letman (Member) Orange County
- 11   Tom Altieri (Member) Orange County
- 12   Tom Devlin (Member) City of Durham Transportation
- 13   Kayla Seibel (Member) City of Durham Planning
- 14   Lynwood Best (Member) City of Durham
- 15   Tasha Johnson (Member) City of Durham Public Works
- 16   Scott Whiteman (Member) Durham County
- 17   Brooke Roper (Member) Durham County
- 18   Tina Moon (Member) Carrboro Planning
- 19   Bergen Watterson (Member) Town of Chapel Hill
- 20   Josh Mayo (Member) Town of Chapel Hill
- 21   Margaret Hauth (Member) Town of Hillsborough
- 22   Brandon Dawson (Member) Chatham County Planning
- 23   John Hodges-Copple (Member) TJCOG
- 24   Jay Heikes (Member) GoTriangle
- 25   Julie Bogle (Member) NCDOT TPD
- 26   Brandon Jones (Member) NCDOT Division 5
- 27   Kurt Stolka (Member) The University of North Carolina
- 28   Travis Crayton (Member) Research Triangle Foundation
- 29   Joe Geigle (Member) Federal Highway Administration
  
- 30   Bill Judge (Alternate) City of Durham
- 31   Craig Benedict (Alternate) Orange County
- 32   Evian Patterson (Alternate) City of Durham Transportation
- 33   David Keilson (Alternate) NCDOT Division 5
- 34   Stephen Robinson (Alternate) NCDOT Division 7
- 35   Bryan Kluchar (Alternate) NCDOT Division 8
- 36   Matt Cecil (Alternate) Chapel Hill Transit/Planning
- 37   Matt Day (Alternate) TJCOG
  
- 38   DeDreana Freeman, Council Member, City of Durham
- 39   Kristen Brookshire, Durham Public Schools
- 40   Bob Deaton, NCDOT Division 5
- 41   Tracy Parrott, NCDOT Division 5

42 Jeron Monroe, NCDOT Division 8  
43 Nick Morrison, NCDOT Integrated Mobility Division  
44 Chris Lukasina, CAMPO  
45 John Tallmadge, Bike Durham  
46 Aidil Ortiz, Aidilisms

47 Aaron Cain, DCHC MPO  
48 Andy Henry, DCHC MPO  
49 Dale McKeel, City of Durham/DCHC MPO  
50 Yanping Zhang, DCHC MPO  
51 Jaehoon Kim, DCHC MPO  
52 Kayla Peloquin, DCHC MPO  
53 Mariel Klein, DCHC MPO

54 Quorum count: 26 of 31 voting members

55 Vice Chair Nishith Trivedi called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

56 **PRELIMINARIES:**

57 **1. Roll Call**

58 The roll call was completed using the Zoom participant list.

59 **2. Adjustments to the Agenda**

60 There were no adjustments to the agenda.

61 **3. Public Comments**

62 There were no public comments.

63 **CONSENT AGENDA:**

64 **4. Approval of the January 26, 2022 TC Meeting Minutes**

65 Kayla Peloquin, LPA Staff

66 **5. City of Durham RAISE Grant Letter of Support**

67 Evian Patterson, City of Durham

68 Tom Devlin made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Jay Heikes seconded the  
69 motion. The motion passed unanimously.

70 **ACTION ITEMS:**

71 **6. CTP Amendment #4**

72 Kayla Peloquin, LPA Staff

73 Kayla Peloquin reviewed the changes to Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP)

74 Amendment #4 from the December 2021 TC meeting. Kayla Peloquin said many public

75 comments have been received requesting the Dearborn Drive portion of Route 9 be designated  
76 as a Transit Emphasis Corridor (TEC). Kayla Peloquin said that while the MPO is happy to  
77 make that designation, it is ultimately the City of Durham which will be responsible for  
78 implementation. Kayla Peloquin described the proposed change in the cross-section to the  
79 Hopson Road Extension to match a developer site plan to make the multiuse path continuous.  
80 Aaron Cain clarified that the Dearborn Drive TEC is not included in CTP Amendment #4,  
81 although the MPO staff can include it in a future CTP amendment if that designation is  
82 supported by the City of Durham. There was a discussion on the Hopson Road Extension cross-  
83 section and the preference of Board members and the community for separated bike facilities to  
84 improve safety.

85           John Hodges-Copple pointed out the Erwin Road and Pettigrew Street segments no  
86 longer need improvement for the former Durham-Orange Light Rail Transit (D-O LRT) line, but  
87 the Metropolitan Transportation Plan (MTP) includes Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) that would likely  
88 run along those segments. John Hodges-Copple said he is hesitant to change the designation  
89 from needs improvement to adequate as they may need improvement in the future for BRT.  
90 John Hodges-Copple said University Drive is not part of the BRT line in the adopted MTP. Andy  
91 Henry pointed out the D-O LRT line had detailed designs while the BRT is in a conceptual  
92 design phase.

93           Vice Chair Nishith Trivedi asked if the TECs will be consistent with the Durham County  
94 Transit Plan update. Aaron Cain said the four TECs in CTP Amendment #4 are consistent with  
95 the Durham Transit Plan update. Aaron Cain said Dearborn Drive as a TEC can be included in  
96 the next CTP amendment to allow time for coordination with Durham County and City of  
97 Durham staff. There was a discussion on the timeline for the next amendment and on how to  
98 ensure consistency with the MTP. John Hodges-Copple said the Durham County Transit Plan  
99 will provide guidance when it is finalized. Jay Heikes expressed support for the direction of the  
100 CTP, and asked if CTP transit maps need to be adjusted to ensure they match the BRT

101 corridors in the 2050 MTP. Andy Henry said that a subsequent CTP amendment can include the  
 102 transit maps. There was a discussion on how development was allowed to be constructed in the  
 103 way of the planned Ellis-Glover connector that was in the CTP. Andy Henry said perhaps  
 104 development plans were submitted prior to adoption of the CTP in 2017.

105 John Hodges-Copple made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board adopt  
 106 Amendment #4 to the Comprehensive Transportation Plan (CTP) with the Erwin Road and  
 107 Pettigrew Street segments remaining designated as needs improvement and the inclusion of the  
 108 new Hopson Road Extension cross-section. Tom Altieri seconded the motion. The motion  
 109 passed unanimously.

110 **7. FY2023 Final Unified Planning Work Program**  
 111 **Mariel Klein, LPA Staff**

112 Mariel Klein reviewed the memo that was included with the agenda attachments that  
 113 outlines the changes from the initial draft to the current version. Mariel Klein said the most  
 114 substantial changes are staffing related as funds have been added to accommodate three new  
 115 positions. Mariel Klein said this information was presented to the MPO Board and they are  
 116 aware of these personnel changes. Mariel Klein described each of the positions and how the  
 117 budget will be altered. Mariel Klein said these positions have to go through the City of Durham  
 118 budgeting process, and these funds can be removed from the UPWP if the City of Durham does  
 119 not approve these additional positions. Mariel Klein detailed other changes as written in the  
 120 memo. Mariel Klein said the development schedule has been revised to reflect the new NCDOT  
 121 due date of May 10, 2022. After the changes, local match shares were recalculated to reflect  
 122 changes in Lead Planning Agency (LPA) Surface Transportation Block Grant Direct Attributable  
 123 (STBGDA) and planning (PL) allocations that reduced local match costs slightly from the draft.

124 Craig Benedict asked if the first Transit Planner position would be the new SWG  
 125 administrator for Durham and Orange Counties, and Aaron Cain said yes. Craig Benedict asked  
 126 how that will be funded between the counties and the UPWP, and Aaron Cain said it is not

127 funded through the UPWP, it uses transit plan funding with the same allocation as currently  
 128 used. There was a discussion on the duties of the Staff Working Group (SWG) administrator.  
 129 Aaron Cain said the bulk of the SWG work is done between November and June, but the rest of  
 130 the year allows for more time for regional transit planning work. Craig Benedict asked if this is a  
 131 new position, that the two counties that fund the position be involved in the interview process  
 132 and developing the work program, and that supplemental tasks would be fulfilling regional  
 133 connectivity issues. Aaron Cain said that is the intent and the person will be an MPO employee.

134 John Hodges-Copple thanked Mariel Klein for all of the work on the UPWP. John  
 135 Hodges-Copple suggested presenting a new LPA organizational chart to the Board to help  
 136 elected officials see the changes if the new UPWP is approved as proposed. John Hodges-  
 137 Copple suggested delineating the differences between programmed and anticipated revenue.  
 138 Mariel Klein agreed and said she will highlight the amount available to be amended later.

139 Tom Devlin made a motion to recommend the MPO Board approve the FY2023 UPWP.  
 140 Margaret Hauth seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

141 **8. FY23 RFF Call for Projects**

142 **Aaron Cain, LPA Staff**

143 Aaron Cain said there have not been many changes since the FY23 Regional Flexible  
 144 Funding (RFF) Call for Projects was presented to the TC in January 2022. Aaron Cain said the  
 145 Board released this item for public comment, and so far no public comments have been  
 146 received. Aaron Cain reviewed the new and existing projects recommended for funding from  
 147 RFF.

148 Josh Mayo made a motion to recommend that the MPO Board approve the staff  
 149 recommended slate of projects for RFF funding in FY23. Scott Whiteman seconded the motion.  
 150 The motion passed unanimously.

151 **9. Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #10**

152 **Kayla Peloquin, LPA Staff**

153 Kayla Peloquin said Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) Amendment #10  
154 primarily consists of projects that were amended in the State Transportation Improvement  
155 Program (STIP) and now need to be amended in the MPO's Transportation Improvement  
156 Program (TIP). Kayla Peloquin said GoTriangle submitted two amendment requests. Tina Moon  
157 said the two Town of Carrboro projects may need to be further delayed. Aaron Cain said new  
158 dates can be included on the summary sheet prior to the March Board meeting. Kayla Peloquin  
159 said she will follow up with Tina Moon on how to make those adjustments.

160 Julie Bogle made a motion to recommend the Board release TIP Amendment #10 for a  
161 21-day public comment period. Margaret Hauth seconded the motion. The motion passed  
162 unanimously.

163 **10. Congestion Management Process (CMP) Updates**

164 **Yanping Zhang, LPA Staff**

165 **Jaehoon Kim, LPA Staff**

166 Yanping Zhang provided an update on the Congestion Management Process (CMP), a  
167 federal requirement to provide up to date performance measures of the transportation system to  
168 inform development of strategies for congestion mitigation. Yanping Zhang described the  
169 various development cycles, the eight steps of the CMP, and how the CMP integrates with the  
170 planning process. Yanping Zhang described traffic count data, travel time and speed data, crash  
171 data, transit data, and other related data. Yanping Zhang reviewed the upcoming schedule for  
172 the development of the CMP Work Plan culminating in the final CMP report due by the end of  
173 June 2023. Yanping Zhang provided updates on system measures including Vehicle Miles  
174 Travelled (VMT) and transit ridership as well as mobility measures such as travel time reliability.  
175 Yanping Zhang pointed out the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on the data trends for the  
176 past several years.

177 Vice Chair Nishith Trivedi asked if the study area for the CMP includes all of Orange  
178 County or only the portions of Orange County within the MPO boundary. Yanping Zhang said it  
179 is generally just the MPO area, but the sub-committee will make the final decision on the study

180 area. Dale McKeel mentioned a related upcoming sub-committee meeting on February 25, 2022  
181 to discuss technical support for bicycle and pedestrian planning.

182 This item was for informational purposes; no further action was required by the TC.

183 **REPORTS FROM STAFF:**

184 **11. Report from Staff**

185 Aaron Cain introduced Kayla Peloquin as the new full-time transportation planner. Aaron  
186 Cain mentioned the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law lunch and learn will be held remotely on  
187 March 4, 2022. Aaron Cain said there is no new information on when TC meetings will occur in  
188 person, but he will discuss this with the Chair and Vice Chair. Aaron Cain said that as of now,  
189 the City of Durham has decided to continue the indoor mask mandate, and MPO staff will  
190 investigate setting up a hybrid format for future TC meetings. Aaron Cain said there will be a  
191 REMIX training held directly after the March 23, 2022 TC meeting at 11:00 am open to all local  
192 jurisdictions. Aaron Cain said the MTP will go into lapse today until the formal letter is received  
193 from the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Aaron Cain said the lapse only affects  
194 federal projects and should be resolved soon.

195 **12. Report from the Chair**  
196 **Ellen Beckmann, TC Chair**

197 Chair Ellen Beckmann said the MPO director search is still ongoing. Chair Ellen  
198 Beckmann mentioned the Orange County Transit Plan survey is currently out for public  
199 comment and there will be updates on the Durham Transit Plan next month. Chair Ellen  
200 Beckmann said there will be a staff transit plans governance study workshop next week.

201 **13. NCDOT Reports**  
202 **Brandon Jones (David Keilson), Division 5 – NCDOT**

203 Brandon Jones provided an update on the development of the FY24-33 STIP that will  
204 be positively impacted by the new Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA). Brandon Jones  
205 said that even with IIJA, there is still an eight-billion-dollar shortfall for committed projects.  
206 Brandon Jones described how projects will be prioritized for the limited funding as well as the

207 flexibility option to swap committed projects. Brandon Jones said the preliminary draft STIP  
208 should be available in April 2022 and that will provide a baseline to begin discussions for swap  
209 options. Brandon Jones updated the TC that the East End Connector should be open in June  
210 2022. Andy Henry asked for an example of a justification for a swap. Brandon Jones said  
211 priorities at the MPO or local level may have changed. Chair Ellen Beckmann said it would help  
212 to have lists of projects in the STIP and a list of projects eligible for swapping. Brandon Jones  
213 said once the preliminary draft STIP is released, there will be a training on the flexibility option.  
214 There was a discussion on the impact of additional Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP)  
215 non-highway funding in IIJA.

216 **Wright Archer (Pat Wilson, Stephen Robinson), Division 7 – NCDOT**

217 Stephen Robinson had no additional report.

218 **Patrick Norman (Bryan Kluchar), Division 8 - NCDOT**

219 Bryan Kluchar said applications are being accepted for high impact low cost projects in  
220 Chatham County.

221 **Julie Bogle, Transportation Planning Division – NCDOT**

222 Julie Bogle had no additional report.

223 **John Grant, Traffic Operations – NCDOT**

224 There was no additional report.

225 **Nick Morrison, Integrated Mobility Division – NCDOT**

226 Nick Morrison mentioned an additional complete streets training to be held on January  
227 25, 2022. Nick Morrison said the FY23 Transportation Demand Management (TDM) call for  
228 projects was released last week and applications are due March 18, 2022.

229

230 **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:**

There was no discussion on the informational items.



231

**Adjourn**

232

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by Chair Ellen Beckmann

233

at 10:37 a.m.